

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,643,701,402,529.55.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,005,275,656,235.75 so far this Congress. The debt has increased \$7,038,446,389.48 since just yesterday.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

HONORING THE MEMBERS OF
CHEROKEE PATROL IN BOY
SCOUT TROOP 1011**HON. TOM PRICE**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the members of Cherokee Patrol in Boy Scout Troop 1011 for their achievements in Scouting.

Sponsored by Mount Bethel United Methodist Church in Marietta, Georgia, Troop 1011 has helped shape the lives of young men since its founding in 1972. Over the years, more than 200 members of Troop 1011 have attained the coveted rank of Eagle Scout. On March 21, they will add seven high school seniors to that list: Connor Reed Crank; Preston William Ehlers; Kirkland Douglas Malcolm; George Capron Merriam; C. Joseph Privateer; James Benjamin Stamberger; and Alexander Conrad Walgren.

In Scouting, troops typically are subdivided into smaller groups known as patrols. And the seven young men just mentioned represent the complete membership of Troop 1011's Cherokee Patrol. Fewer than two percent of all young men who begin Scouting ever become Eagle Scouts, so it is exceedingly rare for each member of a single patrol to reach this pinnacle.

In fact, Madam Speaker, it is downright extraordinary for an entire patrol to be awarded the rank of Eagle on the exact same day.

For meeting certain measures in addition to this rare achievement, Cherokee Patrol has also received the Honor Patrol Award. This award is only bestowed upon patrols whose membership makes the extra effort to be exemplary Scouts. Clearly these seven new Eagle Scouts pass that test with flying colors.

I wish every one of these fine young men the very best in their future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING
POSEY ON HER RECEIPT OF THE
CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL**HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Barbara Posey upon her receipt of the Congressional Gold Medal on March 10, 2010 for her service with the Women's Air Force Service Pilots (WASPs).

During World War II more than sixty years ago, the Women's Air Force Service Pilots worked under the direction of the United States Army Air Forces. These female civilian pilots flew fighter, bomber, transport, and training aircraft. The women of the WASPs pioneered the contribution of American women to the war effort. This commitment to their country was a catalyst for the reform that led to the integration of women pilots into the U.S. Armed Services.

Mrs. Posey's dedication to flying began when she became captivated during her first trip on board a plane. The joy she felt in the air led her to pursue her dream to become a pilot. She traveled to Cortland, New York to earn her pilot's license and in January of 1944, joined the WASPs. At Avenger field in Sweetwater, Texas she completed the same training program required by male pilots. Barbara Posey was one of 1,074 graduates of the program, and served as a test pilot at Shaw Army Airfield in Columbia, South Carolina, flying repaired planes that had been damaged in training operations. Although the director of the program had intended to militarize and commission the pilots, the improving military situation in 1944 reduced the need for additional pilots to be sent overseas.

In January of 1945, Barbara married John Posey before he left for the Pacific theatre. She has been blessed with 8 children, 27 grandchildren, and 22 great grandchildren. Before her retirement in 1986, she continued her excitement for aviation by helping with a grassroots aviation effort in the Delaware Valley.

Madam Speaker, once again I applaud Barbara Posey for her dedication, service and accomplishment. I offer my heartfelt congratulations to her on the momentous occasion of being awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian honor that Congress can award. I am honored to represent Barbara Posey in Congress.

HONORING ISAAC ALLEN AMES

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Isaac Allen Ames, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 134, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Isaac has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the

many years Isaac has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Isaac Allen Ames for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

AMERICANS DESERVE BETTER
THAN OBAMACARE**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to respectfully ask that my colleagues reject Obamacare, which if enacted into law, will seriously undermine, erode, damage—and perhaps even destroy—health care in America.

On substance, the Senate-passed text of over 2,700 pages now pending in the House is egregiously flawed. This is truly a bad bill and is anything but reform.

On process, the near total lack of transparency and misuse of majority party power to ram Obamacare through the Congress, makes it the quintessential example of what's so dreadfully wrong with Washington.

No wonder growing numbers of Americans are fed up, losing faith and angry at the Democrat-controlled Congress and the White House.

No wonder millions of people including Tea Party activists are demanding accountability and defeat of Obamacare.

This has been—and is—an unseemly process unworthy of a national legislature—any legislature for that matter—especially one with an enviable two-century-old history of law-making.

If President Obama wins passage of this bill when it comes to a vote, it will be a Pyrrhic victory at best.

This is not Congress' finest hour.

Rest assured that if Obamacare was sound and prudent policy—fiscally and morally—and an efficacious way of facilitating quality health care coverage, members of both sides of the aisle and across the ideological spectrum would be lining up to support it.

If this was a good bill, persuasion, not pressure would convince a large majority of the members to embrace it.

Instead, blunt force is being applied like a vice grip to "convince" the unconvinced and undecided to cave, conform and capitulate.

On cost, Obamacare is riddled with accounting gimmicks—all designed to make the total price tag appear smaller than it really is.

In order to avoid sticker shock, Obamacare collects new taxes, fees, and shifts billions from Medicare for a full four years before benefits kick in. This trick results in an estimated, but grossly misleading cost of care of \$871 billion over 10 years.

Let me underscore that point, the federal government will collect huge amounts of new taxes, fees and will rob Medicare for a full 10 years—before payouts for services begin four years from now.

But when 10 years of revenue are matched with 10 years of benefits, the real cost comes in at a staggering \$2.3 trillion.